

BIG 4 AND ROADS BREAKUP IN ROW

Conferees Abruptly End the
Eight-Hour Law Ne-
gotiations

MORE TALK
OF A STRIKE

Managers Willing to Abide
by Supreme Court
Verdict

New York, Dec. 29.—Resumption of conferences here yesterday between representatives of the railroads and the employees' brotherhoods was quickly terminated. The reason was understood to be that the conference committee of railroad managers sought to apply the recent switchmen's arbitration award to the present controversy over the Adamson act. The conferees had been in session less than two hours when an adjournment was taken and no announcement was made by either side as to whether future meetings would be held. The brotherhood chiefs were obviously disturbed when the session ended. Neither side would be quoted as to what had taken place.

It was understood, however, that the roads suggested that the dispute between them over the application of the Adamson act, if upheld by the supreme court, be settled on the basis of the switchmen's award, which the railroad managers held gave the switchmen on the railroads involved nine hours' pay for eight hours' work. Representatives of the brotherhoods it was asserted, declined point blank to accept a settlement on such a basis.

It was understood that during the conference yesterday the brotherhood suggested the creating of a federal commission representing both sides, which would consider and settle arbitrarily all future disputes, regardless of whether or not the Adamson act was declared constitutional. The proposal was not given consideration, however, it was stated, in view of the failure of the conferees to agree on how the act ought to be worked out.

The railroad managers will continue their individual conferences here, it was stated. The plans of the brotherhood were not announced.

B. & M.'S REAL PROBLEM.

Reorganization Considered Necessary If
Corporation Is to Pay Dividends.

Boston, Dec. 29.—Two more directors of the Boston & Maine railroad, Charles Sumner Cook of Portland, Me., and Samuel Carr of this city, testified at the receivership proceedings in the federal court yesterday that in their opinion reorganization was necessary to insure financial stability of the property.

Mr. Carr, who is a member of the finance committee of the road, asserted that the Boston & Maine as at present constituted could never earn 5 per cent on its common stock.

If it had not been for the present war the road would have been in the hands of receivers long ago, he added. The great difficulty, he said, was the structure erected on the leased lines.

His willingness to compromise the Hampden railroad's claim against the Boston & Maine, he explained, was based on the fact that he felt if the Hampden case was put into court nobody knew when it would get out, and meantime it would prevent reorganization.

The proposed plan of reorganization, in his opinion, would bring about dividends on the common stock within 10 years. Without reorganization he was unable to see any chance for a dividend.

As the representative of between 4,000 and 5,000 shares of Boston & Maine common stock, a counsel and trustee, Mr. Carr said he favored reorganization because he thought it would put his stock on a dividend paying basis. He felt that the advantages from reorganization were superior to any disadvantages that might come from a compromise of the Hampden or other claims.

MORE CANADIANS FOR FRONT.

Fifth Contingent Ready in England to
Cross Channel.

Ottawa, Ont., Dec. 29.—A London cable states that the organization of a fifth Canadian contingent is being completed, though the decision to send it across to the battle front has not yet been reached.

GERMAN U-BOAT CAPTAIN HAS SUNK 128 SHIPS

Order of Merit Conferred Upon Comman-
der Valentiner—Total Tonnage
Destroyed 282,000.

Amsterdam, via London, Dec. 29.—An announcement is made in the Berlin newspapers that the Order of Merit has been conferred on Captain Valentiner, commander of a German submarine, for sinking 128 ships of a total tonnage of 282,000. Included among the boats sunk are a French gunboat, a troop transport, four steamships loaded with war material and a French submarine conveying 14 coal steamers.

In addition, Captain Valentiner has had numerous engagements with armed hostile ships, capturing two on which guns were mounted. It was his submarine which shelled Funchal, Madeira islands, early this month, and sank in the Funchal harbor the French gunboat Surprise and the steamships Dacia and Kangaroo.

GENERAL F. S. STREETER SUED.

Boston Attorney Seeks to Recover Dam-
ages of \$25,000.

Concord, N. H., Dec. 29.—A new phase of the Carpenter divorce case was disclosed yesterday when it was learned that General Frank S. Streeter of the law firm of Streeter, Demond, Woodworth & Sulloway of this city and chief counsel for Mrs. Marguerite Paul Carpenter in the suit for divorce brought against her by her husband, Major Ralph G. Carpenter, had been made the defendant in a \$25,000 suit brought against him in the Suffolk county court of Massachusetts at Boston.

The plaintiff in the suit is Wilfred M. Smart, a Boston attorney, associated with Senator Nathaniel E. Martin of this city in caring for the interests of Major Carpenter in the divorce case.

It is alleged by Mr. Smart that through the "libel and slander of General Streeter," he has been injured to the extent of \$25,000 which he seeks to recover through the court.

Henry F. Hurlburt, personal counsel of George A. Carpenter, yesterday made a new move in the \$50,000 libel suit brought by George A. Carpenter against the Boston Journal in the United States district court at Boston, when he filed with the superior court of this state papers calling attention to alleged contempt of court in a newspaper article published last week.

WOMAN AS STATE ATTORNEY.

Illinois to Have as an Assistant Attorney
General Miss Jeanette Bates.

Chicago, Dec. 29.—Illinois is to have a woman assistant attorney general, it was announced yesterday by Edward Brundage, attorney general-elect, who said he would appoint Miss Jeanette Bates to the position. To the best of Mr. Brundage's knowledge there is but one other woman in the country in such a position. Miss Bates is now village attorney for the suburb of Ardmore.

ANALYZES CHICAGO CRIME.

Secretary of State Board of Pardons
Finds There are Four Holdups a Day.

Springfield, Ill., Dec. 29.—An analysis on crime conditions in Chicago just completed by Thomas M. Kilbride, secretary of the state board of pardons, shows there is a holdup every six hours, a murder every second day, two suicides a day and an arrest every 7½ minutes.

The four classes of crime he says, are liquor, lust, gambling and bad company.

FOOD TICKETS IN SWEDEN.

To Be Issued After Jan. 15, is Report
from Denmark.

London, Dec. 29.—A Stockholm dispatch to the Copenhagen Ekstrabladet says that bread and flour tickets will be issued in Sweden from Jan. 15.

EAST MONTPELIER.

Every farmer will get his money's worth by attending the school of agriculture in Plainfield next week.

Good Health

good appetite, good spirits—
mean no discord in the body.
To keep the organs in har-
mony—when there is need—use

BEECHAM'S PILLS

Largest Sale of Any Medicine in the World.
Sold everywhere. In boxes, 10c., 25c.

SCOTT FAVORS ARGENTINE PLAN

General Staff Would Train
an Army on This
Line

WOULD PROVIDE
1,500,000 MEN

Calls for Year of Service Be-
tween Ages of 18
and 21

Washington, Dec. 29.—On behalf of the general staff of the army war college, Maj. Gen. Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff, will submit to the House and Senate military affairs committees after the holidays a detailed plan for a universal military training system. This plan will stand as the official war department scheme as far as the views of the military experts are concerned. Whether it will receive the endorsement of Secretary of War Baker and the White House is not known.

According to information obtained yesterday, the plan will embody the principal features of the universal training system employed in Argentina. Under this system young men between the ages of 18 and 21 would be required to undergo intensive military training for a continuous period of one year. It would be applied in this country, if adopted by Congress, with the ultimate end in view of having within a few years a trained reserve of at least 1,500,000 men, capable of expansion in time of emergency to an army of 3,000,000.

Thus far the committees of Congress have not before them any detailed plan which can be regarded as representing the official views of the general staff or war college. In addition to the Chamberlain bill there is the substitute measure prepared by Capt. Moseley of the general staff, which is regarded by Gen. Scott and his colleagues as imperfect, and innumerable other plans proposed by individual army officers who have testified before the committees.

Although it is recognized by the general staff that the one-year period of training would not produce a fighting force comparable with the German troops, which are trained under a two-year system, or the French troops, which are trained for a minimum of three years, it is felt that such a plan would enable the United States to resist the initial impact of an army sent from Europe and give the main American army time in which to fit itself, under additional training for a prolonged campaign.

As the plan will be presented, it will represent what the recognized army experts regard as the minimum requirement for anything like adequate defense of the country. No effort will be made to compromise with members of Congress on the basis of what the latter may regard as the practical obstacles in the way of any system of universal training in this country.

"For the general staff to compromise on any plan which it proposes as embracing the minimum demands of the situation," said one member of that body yesterday, "would be to stultify itself. Congress must assume the burden of responsibility for its rejection or for any departure from its features."

Although army officers are hopeful that legislation of the kind can be put through, it is becoming increasingly doubtful whether anything will be accomplished at this session. With the ses-

sion one-third over the machinery of Congress is already jammed. No headway whatever has been made with the railroad legislation, which President Wilson is insisting on. The regular appropriation bills are more or less held up by the scramble for "pork," and the outlook for any additional legislation is steadily growing dimmer.

CURRENT COMMENT

Clark C. Fitts.

In the death of Clark C. Fitts of Brattleboro the state loses perhaps its most able, at least its most active and brilliant, lawyer. Brattleboro loses the man who has done more for her rapid development of late years than any other individual. Mr. Fitts inspired confidence, by his unimpeachable honesty and loyalty to high ideals. He was a believer in Vermont, in her resources and possibilities, and in her future. His belief took the form, not of words but of action. He proposed important development projects which were carried through. He accumulated what was probably the most lucrative law practice in the state, and died in the prime of life, at the age of 46.—Burlington News.

Lays It to Old Feud.

Rutland county is very much concerned over who is responsible for the development of the marble industry in that county. The text book, "Vermont, Its Resources and Opportunities," written by Walter H. Crockett under direction of Secretary of State Bailey gives the credit to the late Redfield Proctor. But one George C. Underhill challenges the statements in the text book with its relation to the marble industry and claims some other worthy men should bear the honor. It is quite evident that the old Proctor-Clement feud in Rutland is not dead by any means.—Burlington Clipper.

Give Us Liberty—Without Personal Sacrifice?

Secretary of War Baker's statement before the House military committee sounds like an admission that he recognizes the danger of our condition of unpreparedness, but has not the courage to face the remedy. "The obligation to serve the country is a universal one," he says, and then adds: "Whether universal military service or a selective conscription is the correct answer I do not know." If the obligation to serve is universal it is hard to understand why the obligation to know how to serve is not also universal. Any other solution of the national defense problem would not only be unsafe but also undemocratic and un-American.

How Mr. Baker can hope for any adequate measure of protection from the National Guard—or how he can get the consent of his own conscience to intrust the safety of the country to a further trial of such an essentially unmilitary system—it is difficult to see, in view of the figures regarding the recent mobilization of the Mexican border. The war department's report shows that of the 128,000 militiamen finally mustered in for this duty only 37 per cent were enlisted on the date of the call in the regiments on the rolls on the date of the call 47,657 were lost for various reasons, including physical disability. Sixty thousand of the militiamen who went to the border had no military training at all, and nearly as many, or 56,813, had never fired a military rifle.

The indictment of the militia system furnished by these figures is supplemented by the charges made by the returning guardsmen themselves that they got no instruction in divisional maneuvers and next to no target work while doing police detail on the Rio Grande. The country has not profited as it should have even through the training of these men in return for the loss of their time from their businesses and the expenditure of millions in federal cash. Nor have the recruiting officers, with the stimulus of the border trouble to help them, been

able to bring enlistments in the regular army and the National Guard to within many thousands of the minimum figures set by the Hay bill.

The militia system has had a fair trial and has failed. Americans must either discard it and adopt universal training on the Swiss or Australian plan or accept the consequences of inadequate defensive power.—New York Evening Sun.

We Reap What We Have Sown.

If American commerce receives a hard blow from the nationalization of British shipping, with the restriction and supervision of cargoes, and the possible refusal of coal to American ships in British and British colonial ports, we shall be reaping exactly what we have sown as a nation. Why should we have ships of our own? What was the use of them? Were not the British and Germans, the French and the Dutch and the Norwegians and the Japanese there to carry their cheaper labor there to carry them do it and carry our commerce. We are relieved of that "burden." We can put our money into the development of the great west. That was the doctrine that was preached to us, and that was the theory on which Congress went.

AFTER GRIPPE

Mrs. Findley Made Strong by Vinol

Severe, Kans.—"The gripe left me in a weak, nervous, run-down condition. I was too weak to do my housework and could not sleep. After trying different medicines without benefit, Vinol restored my health, strength and appetite. Vinol is a grand medicine, and every weak, nervous, run-down woman should take it."—Mrs. Geo. Findley.

Vinol sharpens the appetite, aids digestion, enriches the blood, and builds up natural strength and energy. Red Cross Pharmacy, Floyd G. Russell, Prop., Barre; also at the leading drug store in all Vermont towns.—Adv.

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Not one cent would Congress, under the leadership of men who could see nothing but inland interests (but who were nevertheless going against inland interests all the time), give to build up an American merchant marine. And now they are evidently going to have a chance to see where this sort of shirking economy leads them.

The great west wants to ship its products to Europe now; it has become a manufacturing as well as agricultural section. But by reason of our long dependence on foreign carriers, and the fact that no adequate means to take advantage of a great opportunity have been reaped since the war began, and with the removal of the German shipping from the sea, we are mainly dependent on the transportation of our exports upon British shipping. And there is absolutely nothing that we can do to prevent such a situation. The British have a perfect right to do with their ships what they wish. They officially describe their position as a state of siege. All British shipping must be organized for the purpose of feeding the army and the population and supplying the army with munitions. All other purposes go to the wall in the national emergency. It is even possible that American shippers cannot get a pound of freight upon the British ships—our chosen carriers, the carriers upon which the great American inland is proud to place its dependence—without the specific consent of the British government.

This is a very interesting but not a comfortable situation for American commerce to be in and it is wholly due to the folly of Congress, under western guidance, in steadily rejecting through a term of fifty years every proposition or suggestion looking to the building up of an American merchant marine by the methods under which the shipping of England and Germany were put upon the seas. With the adoption of such encouragement twenty-five years ago, when the patriotic representatives of New England in Congress were demanding that encouragement, American commerce would have been independent of foreign carriers to-day, and it would have aided

in making America the foremost commercial nation in the world. If our commerce is hampered or suffocated as the result of this war measure of Great Britain we have only our purblind inland statesmen to thank for it.—Boston Transcript.

HUGE FOOD EXPORTS.

American Goods Going Abroad at Rate
of \$60,000,000 a Month.

Washington, Dec. 29.—Food stuffs continue to leave American ports for Europe in vast quantities. Figures published by the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce show that in the first eleven months of this year they reached a value of about \$60,000,000 or at the rate of more than \$60,000,000 a month. Broadstuffs lead in value of foods sold abroad. In the eleven months they reached a total of \$44,000,000. Meat and dairy products amounted to \$245,000,000. Shipments of cattle, hogs and sheep fell off during the year.

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the most energizing prepara-
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It warms and nourishes;
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stops loss of flesh and
builds you up.

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G. F. McAllister Company,
Williamstown, Vt.
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Where Two Years Meet

At the threshold of the new year, we want to express our appreciation of the good will and patronage extended to us during the past year. We have tried as never before to promote the interests of those who trade with us, and we have substantial evidence that our efforts have not been in vain.

During the coming year, we shall maintain the highest standards of professional pharmacy, the highest quality of goods and the best possible service. In doing this, we shall place the interests of our customers above our own.

We wish to thank all of our friends and customers for favors shown and extend to each our best wishes for

A Happy, Healthy and Prosperous
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THE PROGRESSIVE PHARMACY

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100 pounds 50c Milk Chocolates, per pound

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